



Project Guide for Proposition 84-Round 2 and Proposition 1E-Round 2

*Based on DWR's Draft IRWM Grant Program Guidelines
August 2012*

IRWM planning is a relatively new California initiative, aimed at developing long-term water supply reliability, improving water quality, and protecting natural resources. The Statewide IRWM Program is supported by Proposition 50 (2002) and Proposition 84 (2006), both of which provided bond funding to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to fund competitive grants for projects that improve water resources management. The San Diego region is currently embarking on an update to the 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan to become eligible for the next round of funding.

The San Diego IRWM Program began in 2005, and since then has achieved remarkable success! San Diego published its first IRWM Plan in 2007 and received \$25 million in Proposition 50 grant funding to implement 19 prioritized water management projects. Under Proposition 84, the San Diego IRWM Program obtained \$8 million to implement 11 more high-priority projects and \$1 million for planning activities associated with preparing an IRWM Plan Update (currently underway).

The completed 2007 San Diego IRWM Plan (available at www.sdirwmp.org) provides a mechanism for coordinating, refining, and integrating projects within a comprehensive, regional context. The region can update the IRWM Plan with new (or revised) water management projects at any time to ensure that we're ready for future funding applications as they arise.

Stakeholder involvement is an essential element of IRWM planning. To date, the IRWM program has made significant efforts to identify and engage key stakeholders. A Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) was established to assist in completion of the IRWM Plan and prioritization of projects. The RAC, which consists of 32 members with expertise in water supply, wastewater, recycled water, stormwater and urban runoff, natural resources, and environmental stewardship, continues to play a critical role in shaping key elements of the IRWM program.

Purpose of Guide

The purpose of this Project Guide is to provide local agencies, watershed groups, and community leaders with the information necessary to develop and submit integrated, multi-benefit water resource projects for the upcoming IRWM grant funding cycles.



Eligible projects must provide multiple water resource benefits for the San Diego region.

How to Submit Projects

The San Diego IRWM region is now accepting projects that contribute to our mission – “*the protection, management, and development of reliable and sustainable water resources.*” Stakeholders may submit water management projects using our online Project Database (link available at www.sdirwmp.org). After accessing the Project Database, please click on “Sign Up” to create a new log-in. Our interactive database allows local project sponsors to log-in and add, revise, and submit their project information, as well as view all other submitted projects. Projects may be submitted at any time for inclusion within the San Diego IRWM Plan and after the following deadlines for consideration in future grant cycles.

- ◆ **Projects submitted by Friday October 19, 2012 will be considered for the Proposition 84-Round 2 Implementation grant cycle.**
- ◆ **Projects submitted through December 2012 will be considered for Proposition 1E-Round 2 Stormwater Flood Management grant cycle.**

Eligible projects must contribute to the IRWM Plan objectives and provide multiple water resource benefits. Section C of the IRWM Plan (available at www.sdirwmp.org) outlines San Diego’s regional objectives, which include supply reliability, water quality improvement, and protection of natural resources. Section F of the IRWM Plan (see Table F-1) contains a description of the project scoring process that will be used to rank the submitted projects prior to grant application(s).

If you would like to edit or re-submit an existing project and are having trouble logging into the Project Database, please contact Crystal Mohr (cmohr@rmcwater.com, (858) 875-7421) with the Project ID and Project Title – she will transfer the project to your log-in account.

Proposition 84 and 1E Grant Opportunities

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released draft solicitation packages for distribution of competitive grants under the IRWM grant program.

- ◆ **Draft Proposition 84-Round 2 proposal solicitation package is here:** http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_implementation.cfm. Note that Proposition 84-Round 2 applications are to be prepared by the IRWM program as a regional suite of projects.
- ◆ **Draft Proposition 1E-Round 2 proposal solicitation package is here:** http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_stormwaterflood.cfm. Note that Proposition 1E-Round 2 applications are to be prepared by individual applicants that are involved in the IRWM program.

Proposition 84 authorized \$1 billion for the State’s IRWM grant program, of which \$71 million is allocated for the San Diego IRWM region under a funding agreement with our neighboring IRWM regions. **The second round of grant funding, for which applications are currently being solicited, will make \$10 million available for integrated water resource projects in the San Diego IRWM region.** The third round of grants, anticipated in 2014, will provide an estimated \$46 million in grant funding.

Complementary grant funds are also provided by Proposition 1E for stormwater management and flood control projects. Proposition 1E authorized \$300 million for the State’s IRWM grant program. Individual Proposition 1E grant applications must be consistent with the local IRWM Plan. **The second round of grant funding, for which projects must be included in the online Project Database, will make \$92 million available in a statewide competitive grant process.** This is the final round of Proposition 1E grant funding.

What is Integration?

The IRWM program requires an integrated, collaborative, multi-benefit approach to selection and design of water resources projects and programs. Developing integrated project solutions ensures a greater level of benefits for the Region and makes projects more viable (more likely to be funded) within the IRWM grant program. Integration includes:

- ◆ **Partnerships** – Establishing partnerships with other organizations can be cost effective by sharing data, resources, and infrastructure
- ◆ **Resource Management** – Employing multiple resource management strategies within a single project can effectively address a variety of issues
- ◆ **Beneficial Uses** – Project solutions can be implemented to support several different beneficial uses
- ◆ **Geographic** – Implementing watershed- or regional-scale projects can benefit from economies of scale
- ◆ **Hydrologic** – Addressing multiple watershed functions within the hydrologic cycle can resolve conflicts between beneficial uses

The San Diego IRWM Program encourages submittal of larger, consolidated water management projects that embody the different forms of integration described above.

North San Diego County Cooperative Demineralization Project

In Southern California, wastewater, brackish water, and urban runoff are high in total dissolved solids (TDS) and other impurities that require advanced treatment to allow beneficial reuse. This project is focused on developing new local water supplies and managing water quality issues by constructing advanced water treatment facilities to mitigate high TDS sources:

- *Partnerships*: Implements cooperative efforts to provide water education and outreach to over 43,000 residents of North County
- *Resource Management*: Constructs infrastructure to increase recycled water production capacity by 560 AFY (water supply) and intercept and treat pollutant loadings to San Elijo Lagoon (water quality)
- *Beneficial Uses*: Supports municipal water customers, aquatic and wildlife species in the Lagoon, and recreational users of the coast

Strategic Integration Workshop

The San Diego IRWM Program will host a workshop to gather project proponents and encourage the Region's stakeholders to engage in integrated project planning for the Proposition 84-Round 2 funding cycle. Prior to this workshop, stakeholders are encouraged to:

- ◆ If your organization has a project in mind for Proposition 84-Round 2, complete the **Project Concept Form** (available on www.sdirwmp.org) and be prepared to discuss it at the workshop. This form provides a summary description of the proposed project, so that its merits can be discussed among IRWM stakeholders prior to submitting the full project via our online Project Database.
- ◆ Even if your organization does not have a specific project in mind, there may be opportunities to participate in other sponsors' projects. We encourage you to complete the **Project Partner Form** (also available on www.sdirwmp.org) to describe your organization's interest and capabilities in partnering in IRWM projects.

Information for the Strategic Integration Workshop is provided below:

San Diego IRWM Strategic Integration Workshop
Wednesday September 12, 2012
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
SDG&E Energy Innovation Center
4760 Clairemont Mesa Blvd
San Diego, CA 92114

IRWM Project Scoring

Section F of the IRWM Plan (available at www.sdirwmp.org) establishes a prioritization process to determine which projects best meet Regional needs. The prioritization process results in a list of Tier 1 projects that help to achieve the IRWM Plan objectives. The grant application package(s) are then determined through further review and vetting of the Tier 1 project list.

The prioritization process is intended to be a transparent and defensible method that encourages the development and submittal of projects that are best suited to meeting the identified needs of the Region. Project scoring was developed to rate projects on their ability to do the following:

- contribute to regional goals and objectives;
- integrate multiple water management strategies;
- benefit the entire region;
- synergize with other projects;
- benefit disadvantaged communities;
- address environmental justice needs;
- build upon other local and regional planning efforts; and
- foster partnerships among entities.

Note that DWR has established a funding target that allocates 10% of all IRWM grant funding to projects that specifically address the critical water supply and water quality needs of disadvantaged communities.

Eligibility Requirements

The following eligibility requirements are based on DWR's IRWM Guidelines:

- ◆ **Eligible Grant Recipients** – Eligible grant recipients are public agencies, non-profit organizations, and tribal governments that are IRWM stakeholders.
- ◆ **Consistency With Adopted IRWM Plan** – Any Proposition 84 or Proposition 1E project must be consistent with the adopted 2007 IRWM Plan. To be consistent with the IRWM Plan, implementation projects must be added to the IRWM project list through our online Project Database (link available at www.sdirwmp.org).
- ◆ **Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Compliance** – *Urban water suppliers* subject to the Urban Water Management Planning Act (CWC §10610 et seq.) must have a submitted and completed UWMP to be eligible for IRWM grant funding.
- ◆ **AB 1420 Compliance** – Water management grants to *urban water suppliers* are conditioned on implementation of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the California Urban Water Conservation Council MOU (available at <http://www.cuwcc.org/mou-main-page.aspx>) and submittal of necessary documentation to DWR's Water Use and Efficiency Branch.
- ◆ **Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) Compliance** – For groundwater management and recharge projects, the grant recipient or partners must demonstrate that they have prepared and implemented a GWMP or other basin-wide management plan that meets the requirements of CWC §10753.7; that the project includes development of a GWMP that meets the requirements of CWC §10753.7 which will be completed within 1-year of the grant application submittal; or that they conform to the requirements of an adjudication of water rights in the subject groundwater basin.

Contract Requirements

The following contract requirements are anticipated based on DWR's IRWM Guidelines and local experience during Proposition 50 and Proposition 84 grant contracting:

- ◆ **Grant Reimbursement** – The Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E grant funding is a reimbursement of project costs already spent by the grant recipient. Reimbursable costs may include costs associated with planning, engineering, design, land and easement, legal, environmental documentation, mitigation, and administration. O&M costs are not eligible for reimbursement.

Only work performed after receipt of the grant award confirmation letter from DWR will be eligible for reimbursement. Costs incurred after September 30, 2008 may be considered as a part of the funding match.

- ◆ **Funding Match** – Funding match includes all project funds made available by the grant recipient from non-state sources, including federal funds, local funds, and in-kind services. In-kind services are those performed by the grant recipient and documented by an hourly billing rate.

The funding match for Proposition 84-Round 2 is anticipated to be 25% of total project costs. For projects that address a critical water supply or water quality need for a disadvantaged community, the funding match may be waived.

The funding match required for Proposition 1E-Round 2 is anticipated to be 50% of total project costs. The Proposition 1E funding match cannot be waived or reduced.

- ◆ **10% Retention** – For each project, DWR will withhold a minimum 10% of the funds requested for grant reimbursement until the project is completed and the grant recipient has met all reporting requirements.
- ◆ **CEQA Compliance** – All activities funded under the IRWM program must be in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code §21000 *et seq.*), either before or as part of the proposed work plan.
- ◆ **Labor Compliance Program** – Any grant recipient financing a public works project with IRWM grant funds must adopt and enforce a Labor Compliance Program pursuant to California Labor Code §1771.5(b).

Contacts

If you have any questions about the upcoming Proposition 84 and Proposition 1E grant cycles or the San Diego IRWM project submittal process, please contact Mark Stadler (MStadler@sdcwa.org or 858-522-6735) or Rosalyn Prickett (rprickett@rmcwater.com or 858-875-7420).